

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 7631

日五十四年五月三十日

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 31ST, 1882.

三月三十日

英語

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

May 30, MAESAS, British steamer, 1,262, J. Pirie, Singapore 24th May, General. — SIMONSEN & Co.

May 30, EMUR, Spanish str., 222, G. Octoar, Manila 27th May, General. — REMEDOR & Co.

May 30, MINERVA, German brig, from Whampoa.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOURMASTER'S OFFICE, MAY 30TH.

Centurion, British str., for London. Himalaya, British str., for Saigon. Asia, German bark, for Newchwang. Amur, British str., for Shanghai. Esmeralda, British str., for Amoy. Hydra, German bark, for Pulo. Kanchetka, British str., for Shanghai. Minard Castle, British str., for Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.

May 30, ACTIV, Danish steamer, for Haiphong.

May 30, KANTHAKHAT, British steamer, for Shanghai.

May 30, ESMERALDA, British steamer, for Amoy.

May 30, AMY, British str., for Shanghai.

May 30, MINARD CASTLE, British steamer, for Shanghai.

May 30, HIMALAYA, British str., for Saigon.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Derry, str., from Manila. — 150 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Kanchetka, str., for Shanghai. — 10 Chinese.

Per Zambesi, str., for Japan. — Mrs. Silver, Maser C. H. Icley, O. Harvey, Habek, A. Mowle, F. P. Tabor, and E. Reid.

REPORTS.

The Spanish steamer *Minerva* reports left Manila on the 27th May, and had the weather and strong NE. winds and sea.

The British steamer *Makar* reports due weather up to Monday morning at 8 A.M. when had a heavy Northerly gale up till 10 p.m.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.

May — ARRIVALS.

12. Paking, British str., from Hankow.

13. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Foochow.

14. Hida, British str., from Ningpo.

15. Lutin, French gunboat, from Amoy.

16. Swallow, British str., from Amoy.

17. El Dorado, British str., from Tientsin.

18. Foshan, British str., from Tientsin.

19. Tamsi, British str., from Swatow.

20. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Hankow.

21. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

22. Hida, British str., from Amoy.

23. Hing-ting, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

24. Hing-ting, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

25. Europe, British str., from Nagasaki.

26. Chin-tung, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

27. Pub. Wo, British str., from Hankow.

28. W. C. de Vries, British str., from Hankow.

29. Oakland, British str., from Hongkong.

30. Tunis, British str., from Ningpo.

31. Peking, British str., from Amoy.

32. Taku, British str., from Tientsin.

33. Hida, German gunboat, from Keeling.

34. Eury, British str., from Hongkong.

35. Carlo, German str., from Hongkong.

36. Sib, British str., from Sydney.

37. Norden, Danish str., from Swatow.

38. Ningpo, British str., from Hongkong.

39. Kiang-foo, British str., from Hankow.

40. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

41. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

42. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

43. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

44. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

45. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

46. Chin-tung, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

47. Peking, British str., for Chinkiang.

48. Hing-ting, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

49. Tamsi, British str., for Chinkiang.

50. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

51. Hida, British str., for Chinkiang.

52. Hing-ting, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

53. Europe, British str., for Nagasaki.

54. Pub. Wo, British str., for Hankow.

55. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Hankow.

56. Peking, British str., for Tientsin.

57. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

58. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

59. P. C. de Vries, British str., for Hankow.

60. Soldier, British str., for Chinkiang.

61. Apion, British str., for Foochow.

62. Carlos, German str., for Tientsin.

63. Norden, Danish str., for Chinkiang.

64. Yeoing, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

65. Hing-ting, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

66. Tamsi, British str., for Chinkiang.

67. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

68. Hida, British str., for Chinkiang.

69. Hing-ting, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

70. Europe, British str., for Nagasaki.

71. Pub. Wo, British str., for Hankow.

72. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

73. P. C. de Vries, British str., for Tientsin.

74. Kiang-foo, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

75. P. C. de Vries, British str., for Tientsin.

76. Soldier, British str., for Chinkiang.

77. Apion, British str., for Foochow.

78. Carlos, German str., for Tientsin.

79. Norden, Danish str., for Chinkiang.

80. Yeoing, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.

81. Kormant, French corv. for a cruise.

VERSELS EXPORTED TO HONGKONG.

(Continued to Date).

Banister, Greenock, Jan. 28. — London, Jan. 30.

Baled Will, London, Jan. 31.

P. Simons, Cardiff, Feb. 8.

Barclays, Liverpool, Feb. 12.

Taylor, Penzance, Feb. 13.

P. J. Carlton, Cardiff, Feb. 15.

London Castles, Cardiff, Feb. 21.

Douglas Castle, Cardiff, Mar. 5.

E. H. Caine, Sandycroft, Mar. 5.

Patrician, London, Mar. 11.

Felix, Cardiff, Mar. 12.

Eliza, Liverpool, Mar. 14.

J. S. Thayer, Cardiff, Mar. 15.

Apion, British str., for Chinkiang, Mar. 17.

Gulf of P. M., British str., for Ningpo.

Invincible, British str., for Tientsin.

M. Castle, Middlebrough, Mar. 23.

Neuburg, London, Mar. 27.

Craigendcroft, Greenock, Mar. 30.

Laures, London, Mar. 31.

Cicero, Liverpool, Apr. 3.

Sardona, London, Apr. 8.

Leander, London, Apr. 10.

Achilles, Liverpool, Apr. 13.

Comet, Penzance, Apr. 16.

Glenarung, London, Apr. 18.

Kaspar-J. Hind, London, Apr. 19.

AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.

J. M. ARMSTRONG, Sunry Goods, At Noon.

J. M. GUEDES, Valuable Property, At 1 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 2 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 3 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 4 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 5 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 6 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 7 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 8 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 9 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 10 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 11 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 12 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 1 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 2 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 3 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 4 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 5 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 6 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 7 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 8 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 9 P.M.

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H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 4 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques, &c., At 5 P.M.

H. C. POWELL & CO., Antiques

INSURANCES.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES on the rates of \$65,000 on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & Co.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1882. [18]

BATAVIA SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

MARINE RISKS.

Polices granted on First-class Risks at Current Rates.

A BROKERAGE of THIRTY-THREE AND ONE-THIRD PER CENT. will be allowed on all LOCAL RISKS.

FIRE RISKS.

Polices granted on First-class Risks to an extent of \$20,000 at Current Local Rates.

RUSSELL & Co.

Agents, Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SIEMSEN & Co.

Agents, Hongkong, 16th November, 1872. [16]

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Polices at current rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Polices issued for sums not exceeding £5,000, at reduced rates.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Polices issued for sums not exceeding £5,000, at current rates.

HOLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, 26th July, 1872. [15]

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

CAPITAL £100,000; EQUAL TO \$533,333.33. RESERVE FUND \$70,382.7.

DIRECTORS.

Lee Sing, of the Lee Hing Fong.

Wong Yik Pun, of the Chum Cheong Wing Hong.

Looy Yee, of the Ye On Fong.

Wong Pak Cheong, of the Sun Ty Lee Hong.

Tsz Kai Tung, of the Yeoh Cheong Hong.

Lo Yook Moon, of the Kwong Man Cheong Firm.

MANAGER—HO AMBI.

MAINTAIN RATES on Goods, &c., taken at CURENT RATES to Australia, California, Manila, Singapore, Saloon, Ponson, and to all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan.

Head Office, 8th & Praya West.

Hongkong, 14th October, 1878. [144]

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE to the extent of \$80,000 on any one

FIRST-CLASS RISKS.

RATES ON FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS REDUCED to 5% per cent. net per annum from the date.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Agents, Imperial Fire Insurance Company.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1881. [22]

THE SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

CAPITAL £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling).

UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT FIRE and MARINE RISKS at Current Rates, allowing usual discounts.

GEO. E. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1881. [20]

THE MAN OF INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

CAPITAL (FULLY SUBSCRIBED), \$1,000,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEUNG, OR, H. P. P. FRED.

CHAN HUH, Eng.

YU CHENG PENG, Eng.

CHAN LI CHOW, Eng.

YU HO CHUNG, Eng.

The Company GRANTS POLICIES on MARINE RISKS in all parts of the World, payable at Current Rates.

Contributions. Premiums are payable to all Contributors of Business, whether they are Shareholders or not.

WOO LIN YUEN.

Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE.

No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 11th March, 1881. [51]

PHOENIX FIRE OFFICE.

The Undersigned are now prepared to GRANT POLICIES of INSURANCE against FIRE at the following Rates:

On First-class European.

Tenants at 1%, Net per Annum.

On Second-class Goods, &c.,

Tenants at 2%, Net per Annum.

On Second-class Chinese.

Tenants at 2%, Net per Annum.

On Coal, &c.,

Agents at 1%, Net per Annum.

On Petroleum in H. C. C. cased Godowns, &c., at 1%, Net per Annum.

On First-class Chinese.

Tenants at 2%, Net per Annum.

On Second-class Chinese.

Tenants at 2%, Net per Annum.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Agents for Phoenix Fire Office.

Hongkong, 8th August, 1881. [19]

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to INSURE against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1882. [21]

GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED, 1821.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.

TOTAL FUNDS IN FOWARD, 2,971,000.

TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME OVER £500,000.

The Undersigned Agents of the above Company, are prepared to ISSUE POLICIES of INSURANCE against FIRE on the usual Terms.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 1st June, 1882. [1913]

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED, 1821.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company at this Port, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE for LIFE INSURANCE in China.

MEYER & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 3rd June, 1879. [1046]

DISCOUNT 20%.

VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, 10th September, 1880. [1455]

THE THAMES AND MERSEY MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—1, ROYAL EXCHANGE,

LONDON, ENGLAND.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at Current Rates, allowing usual discounts.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1881. [847]

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED, 1821.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company at this Port, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE for LIFE INSURANCE in China.

BIRLEY & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 10th May, 1882. [1888]

DISCOUNT 20%.

VOGEL & Co.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1878. [1440]

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, as Agents for the above Company, are prepared from this date to

GRANT POLICIES upon FIRST-CLASS RISKS to the extent of \$10,000, on the Reduced Rates.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, 11th May, 1881. [18]

INSURANCES.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF 1877 OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed General Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES at Current Rates, allowing usual discounts.

EDUARD SCHELLMASS & Co.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1882. [102]

TOTAL CAPITAL AND

ACCUMULATION, 6th, Tls. 940,553.62

April, 1882.

DIRECTORS.

H. D. COFFINS, Eng., Chairman.

J. H. PINNOCK, Eng., 1. WM. MURKIN, Eng.

A. I. M. INVERARAY, G. H. WHEELER, Eng.

Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

MESSRS. RUSSELL & Co., Stockholders.

London Branch.

MESSRS. BARKING BROTHERS & Co., Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Eng., Agent.

68 and 69, Conduit, H.O.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

NOTICE.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

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MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Polices granted on First-class Risks, payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Polices issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 at Current Local Rates.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

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EXTRACTS.

THE NIGHT WIND.
Once, when the night wind clapped its wings
And shook the window-bars and roof,
I heard the souls of battlements.

Drive by in dashing speed,
Sometimes a smile lifts it, keeps
Of winter nights in shadowed trees,
Or underneath the eaves it creeps.

A swirl of murmuring bees,
Or, now, wild huntress of the air,
In hollow chase their bugles blow,
While swift o'er wood and hill-top bare.

The hill-voiced quarry flew,
Sometimes a hoar frost down,
Sits under ward of storm and night,
To where in ivy ledges there alone

A tape and bright.
These things the night wind used to tell,
And still will tell if I might hear;
But soon sleep to sound and still

To lead a dreamless one.

—Midwinter Century.

THE FALL IN THE VALUE OF MONEY.

The complaint that money will not go so far in our generation as it did a generation ago is frequent, although the compensating truth that money, on the whole, is made more quickly now-a-days than it was formerly is not so frequently dwelt upon. The general sinking of the value of money was most instructive and pleasant, illustrated in a paper read by M. Avela a few days ago in Paris before the Academy of Sciences. His subject was confined to the period of Louis XIII.—1610 to 1643. A tolerably brilliant housekeeper, with two servants, could be easily managed, as M. Avela tells us, upon a yearly income of 12,000 francs. This is proved by the account books of Cardinal Richelieu's niece, Mademoiselle de Pont Courtey, who had exactly that income, and maintained herself, her two daughters, and no fewer than 16 servants in the style corresponding to the high place and power of her eminent kinsman. A nobleman with a revenue of 100,000 francs was held to be amazingly wealthy. This was the passage, M. Avela says, of Gaston, the King's brother, and also of the De Rohan. The Constable de Montmorency, the richest nobleman in France, gave his daughter only 300,000 francs as her dowry. Queen Henrietta Maria, the wife of our Charles I., only brought about 300,000 francs into his English home, as her wedding grant. The rents of the most splendid houses in Paris were extraordinarily low, measured by the scale of two centuries later. Then the English Ambassador in Paris only paid 2,000 francs a-year for the hire of his imposing hotel.

QUEER STORIES.

SEPTIMUS WRATTS AND HIS TWO SPROUTS.
He had always been a sharp lad, and as a mere child he seemed to understand by a kind of instinct on which side his bread was best buttered. As he grew older, and had the liberty of choice, it was remarked that he was not specially nice as to the purity of the bread or the cleanliness of the butter. Provided he had the one thick and the other flat, he did not trouble himself about minor matters; and the plum of the bakeshouse, like the dirt of the dairy, went into the account with the rest. The youngest of seven, with not much money about him, was the only one who was necessary that each should have his own living-betties; but while the father took care of the elder, he left Septimus to fight his own way by himself. "He is a sharp lad," he said; "he'll do. He doesn't want a hand, like Tom and Matt, but will find his own way about by himself." And the sequel proved that the old gentleman was right.

Ambitious and not proud, Septimus bent his back to the burden, and put his hand to any plough that came across his path. He went into the rag and bone trade, and trafficked in old manuscripts. Sometimes he earned a pretty penny by showing off a magic lantern, and sometimes he assisted in photography. But he never found his equilibrium till he settled at Oldtown, as the "showman" of a panorama, which he manipulated with so much dexterity as to make it do duty for any place he chose to call it.

Now at Oldtown were two rival establishments for making gas-lamps. The firm of Pitch & Fry was the more ancient, but that of King & Mann was the more enterprising, and undoubtedly turned out the clearest glass and the better burners. Natural gas, each firm wanted its wares well spoken of and set before the public in the manner most likely to attract purchasers; and no expense was spared in getting people who would swear that Pitch & Fry's patent burners were the only ones a civilised gentleman ought to use, or that King & Mann's new jets beat all creation and gave ten times the light of the more ancient forms. Of course, the two firms were at daggers drawn; and each hated the other like poison. The head-advertising place of the country was at Whiteheads, not at Oldtown, and the struggle between these two makers of gas-lamps was, which should be advertised in the biggest letters and with most display. As Mr. Janus, the head of the advertising office, had had no quarrel with Pitch & Fry, and had helped to establish King & Mann, of course he favoured the newer firm. In fact, it was well known that he went heart-and-soul for King & Mann, and that the others need expect only bare justice at his hands, and be glad if they got that.

His agent at Oldtown, one Albert Fall, even went beyond him in enmity to Pitch & Fry, and in friendliness to their rival. A man of doubtful antecedents, Albert Fall was at least loyal to his employers, and steadily eulogised those gas-lamps to anyone who was specially paid. But circumstances compelled him to offer for a time, and then the question was, who to get as a locum tenens in his absence. Now Septimus Wratts had made himself specially agreeable to Albert Fall, and had impressed that gentleman with a sense of his abilities, as well as with the conviction of his fidelity, so that Albert had no doubt the fellow would prove a serviceable warming-pan and an excellent instrument—someone who might be taken up and put down at pleasure. He therefore gave Wratts the post of vice-agent in his absence. But Albert Fall reckoned without his host, if he thought that smart young man from the country good only as a warming-pan and lieutenant. When he came back to take possession of his old place and resume his former supremacy, he found his old friend so firmly seated in the saddle that he was no unloving master. Now Septimus Wratts had made himself specially agreeable to Albert Fall, and had impressed that gentleman with a sense of his abilities, as well as with the conviction of his fidelity, so that Albert had no doubt the fellow would prove a serviceable warming-pan and an excellent instrument—someone who might be taken up and put down at pleasure. He therefore gave Wratts the post of vice-agent in his absence. But Albert Fall reckoned without his host, if he thought that smart young man from the country good only as a warming-pan and lieutenant. When he came back to take possession of his old place and resume his former supremacy, he found his old friend so firmly seated in the saddle that he was no unloving master.

From this it appears, Septimus Wratts mind was changed. The third night he had been inserted, and Pitch & Fry drove the wretched boy down. Not a single word without their sending Wratts some mark of their regard. They had him to their bachelor-parties, and always took care to give him a good place and a full glass. They introduced him to some of the best people in the country—those who had stuck to them, and who had nothing to do with King & Mann; they fattered him broadly, and tickled him gently; they devoted themselves to him. Wratts, and laid off their young

to the daughter, who was no beauty, that called him their Daniel; and their friends adopted the name in fact, they got round him in every way that was possible, and in a very little time they had him as safe as a spider in a web, so that he made a sudden turn right about face, repented what he had formerly behaved, and had formerly behaved. Every week, almost every day, the fellow sent flaming accounts of the grand doings of Pitch & Fry, while he sneered at or burked all that King & Mann might produce. He boasted the promises of the two old bachelors as in the beginning he had baited the premises of their rivals. He boasted their friends, and cooked his nose higher than ever in the air as he rolled over the names of the fossilised antique families who had stuck to Pitch & Fry, and who, for their sakes, had admitted this clever young man to their houses. They

friendship with King & Mann was the making of him in Oldtown. Mrs. King was kind to Mrs. Wratts, and Mrs. Mann was benevolent godmother to the little Wratts; and their countenance gave the family standing among the better classes, which she never had had. Meantime King & Mann were honest kind of folk themselves, and believed in the agent's sincerity; and, to mark their appreciation of his friendliness, they gave him a piece of plate, with an inscription setting forth their gratitude for that same. Thus Wratts was more than ever their devoted slave, and the advertising office at Whiteheads was flooded with his eulogistic comments on their gas-lamps, themselves, and their families, till a few men in Oldtown consulted seriously among themselves whether it would not be the right thing to do to pull his nose in the club, and kick him downstairs afterwards.

"It is only fair to give each man his due. The very devil ought to have his due," said Wratts, angrily, when the friends of King & Mann remonstrated with him for his tirade. "I write only the truth. Pitch & Fry do make good gas-lamps, and their work, though old, is perfect, and all the better for being old; and King & Mann are shabby on their legs, and I don't care to buy them up, but a man can't be expected to buy up the gas-lamps! the gas-lamps! what of them?" said the friends of King & Mann. "Pitch & Fry are established long before King & Mann came, and if you have to shut up shop, it ought to be to them."

Wratts was nothing but a funkey now, and, as such, unfit for the society of gentlemen." When Pitch & Fry heard of all this, and felt the result in the falling-off of their sales and the general discredit into which their wares had fallen, they took counsel together as to how they could make a diversion in their own favour.

"What is his price?" asked Pitch, the senior partner. He was a shrewd old man—shrewd, and of decent character. King & Mann's avarice, glaring, vulgar innovations, down to town! I say I, and by George, I'll help to turn the whole lot of them out of the place!"

"Mr. Wratts, said one, more honest than polite, "you are a scoundrel!"

"Wratts had all very well," they said; "but funkey was another thing altogether. And Wratts was nothing but a funkey now, and, as such, unfit for the society of gentlemen."

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